

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 08720 171307Z

64

ACTION MC-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 SP-02 PM-04

INR-07 NSAE-00 /033 W

----- 006778

R 171148Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7976

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 8720

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, SP

SUBJECT: NATIONAL DISCLOSURE POLICY SPANISH SECURITY ASSESSMENT

REF: STATE A-3976 (AUG 9) MADRID 7417

1. REVIEW OF THE OCT 1972 SECURITY SURVEY OF SPAIN LEADS US TO BELIEVE THAT, WHILE SOME OF THE DETAILS HAVE CHANGED, THE FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION REMAIN SOUND.

2. AN UPDATING NOW WOULD BE ONLY OF TEMPORARY VALUE, WITH A FURTHER REVIEW PROBABLY NEEDED AFTER THE INSTALLATION OF A PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM EXPECTED IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1977.

3. IN LIGHT OF SPANISH SENSITIVITY TO OUTSIDE INQUIRIES ABOUT SUCH MATTERS, IT WOULD SEEM ADVISABLE TO ATTEMPT TO UPDATE THE SURVEY IN MOST NATURAL WAY POSSIBLE, I.E. THROUGH THE DEVICE OF THE SOON TO BE ESTABLISHED COMBINED MILITARY COORDINATION AND PLANNING STAFF (AS SUGGESTED REF B). THIS COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED IN THE COURSE OF 1977, WITH EMBASSY ASSISTANCE.

4. GIVEN THE ESSENTIAL ACCURACY OF THE EXISTING SURVEY WE BELIEVE OUR REQUIREMENTS WOULD BE ADEQUATELY FULFILLED IN THIS WAY.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, MILITARY POLICIES, CLASSIFIED INFORMATION, SURVEYS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 NOV 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MADRID08720
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760429-0328
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761138/aaaabgye.tel
Line Count: 51
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION MC
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE A-3976, 76 MADRID 7417
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 MAY 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <02 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATIONAL DISCLOSURE POLICY SPANISH SECURITY ASSESSMENT
TAGS: MILI, SP, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006